



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

**Fields, Brian**

Serial No.: 09/857,145

Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed: May 31, 2001

Examiner: Mai, Tri M.

For: **SMALL DIAMETER CAN END WITH LARGE OPENING**EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV 160974948 US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: December 9, 2002Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

This is responsive to the Office Action dated June 7, 2002.

**In the claims:**

Amend claim 1, as follows:

1. (Amended) An easy open can end having improved flow characteristics, said end comprising:

a circular center panel with a rupturable score line therein, the score line defining the periphery of a non-removable tear panel,

a non-detachable tab including a nose portion and a rear portion; and  
a connection between the tab and the center panel which acts as a pivot about which the tab can be rotated out of the plane of the center panel, such that in use, the rear portion of the tab is lifted to cause the nose portion of the tab to press down on the tear panel, thereby rupturing the score line and swinging the rear panel out of the plane of the center panel to create an opening, the opening including a major axis and a minor axis, the minor axis located at a diameter of the center panel and the major axis located

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